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**OFFICE OF PETITIONS**

In re Application of :  
Shoicho Hirota et al :  
Application No. 09/624,062 : ON PETITION  
Filed: July 24, 2000 :  
Attorney Docket No. 81940.0001 :

This is a decision on the petition under 37 CFR 1.137(b), filed January 21, 2004, to revive the above-identified application.

The petition is **GRANTED**.

The above-identified application became abandoned for failure to reply within the meaning of 37 CFR 1.113 in a timely manner to the final Office action mailed May 20, 2003, which set a shortened statutory period for reply of three (3) months. A reply under 37 CFR 1.113 is limited to an amendment that *prima facie* places the application in condition for allowance or a Notice of Appeal (and appeal fee required by 37 CFR 1.17(b)). Since the amendment submitted does not *prima facie* placing the application in condition for allowance or Notice of Appeal (and appeal fee) was timely filed. Extensions of time under the provisions of 37 CFR 1.136(a) were obtained. Accordingly, the above-identified application became abandoned on November 21, 2003.

Telephone inquiries concerning this decision should be directed to Wan Laymon at (703) 305-9282.

The application is being referred to Technology Center AU 2871 for processing of the request for continued examination under 37 CFR 1.114 and for consideration of the concurrently filed Amendment.

  
Wan Laymon

Petitions Examiner  
Office of Petitions  
Office of the Deputy Commissioner  
for Patent Examination Policy